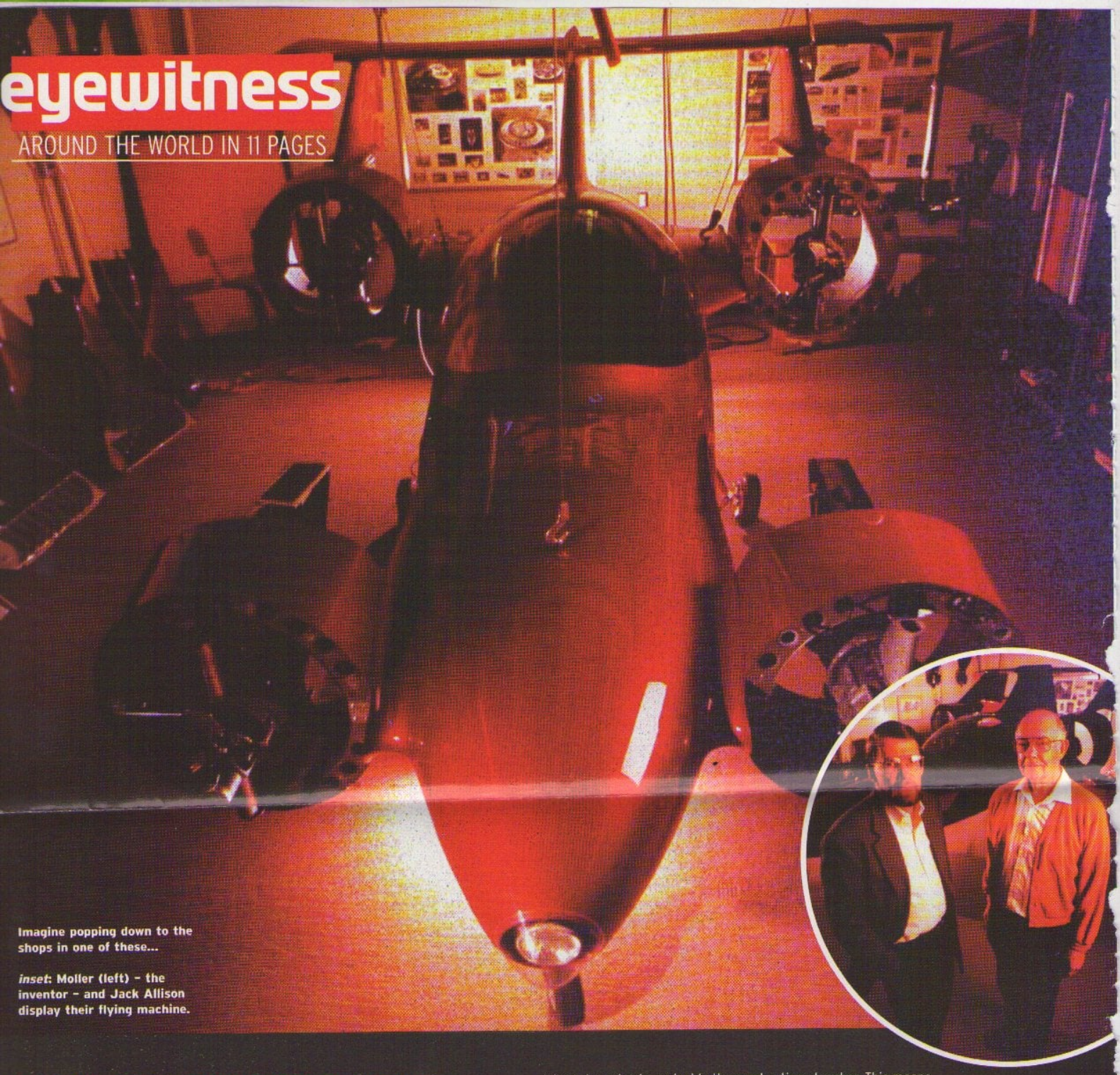
eyewitness

AROUND THE WORLD IN 11 PAGES



Imagine popping down to the shops in one of these...

***inset*: Moller (left) – the inventor – and Jack Allison display their flying machine.**

BABY, YOU CAN FLY MY CAR

Flying car passes final test before lift-off

If Dick Van Dyck was young again, he'd ditch Chitty Chitty Bang Bang for this futuristic flying machine. The SkyCar is the definitive answer to M25 traffic jams, and if all goes to plan its first test flight could go ahead later this month.

SkyCar is the brain child of Dr Paul Moller. Shaped like the Batmobile and weighing in at 1,000kg it's the first real-life flying car. Not much wider than a family saloon, inside its pressurised compartment there's enough room for four passengers. But unless you're a lottery winner you might have to wait before trading your Fiesta for what Moller affectionately calls a Volantor. At present one of these red devils will set you back £600,000, though Moller predicts that with mass production the price could drop to £40,000.

At the heart of the project lies Moller's revolutionary Rotary Wankel Engine. Jack Allison, Vice President of Moller International, calls it "the enabling technology of the SkyCar." Unlike conventional engines it has no pistons. Instead a triangular rotor turns inside the combustion chamber. This means there are relatively few moving parts making the engine potentially very reliable. Eight Wankels power SkyCar, producing 12,000 newtons of thrust, and giving SkyCar a top speed of 600kph. Running on petrol the engine's consumption is about 8km to the litre, but the gas guzzling motor can be converted to run off natural gas or alcohol for a more environmentally friendly ride.

"We've just finished testing the engines on their own," Allison told *Frontiers*. "Once we put them back in, install the electronics and computer controlled fly-by-wire system we're ready for lift-off."

Dr Moller will pilot the first test flight. But because he doesn't hold a pilot's licence, he'll fly the vehicle tethered to a crane. SkyCar will be attached by three lengths of steel cable fixed to strong points on its body. Moller plans to launch to a height of 2 to 3 metres on the first test flight and stay aloft for one to two minutes, manoeuvring horizontally over a circular area 60m in diameter to test its handling. If all goes to plan a test pilot will be called in to fly future test flights.

But Moller's grand vision is for the car to be pilotless. "We foresee the day where the control of the Skycar will be completely automated – up to voice command. You'd get in, tell it where to go and it'd take you there."

NATIONAL NEWS AND PICTURES

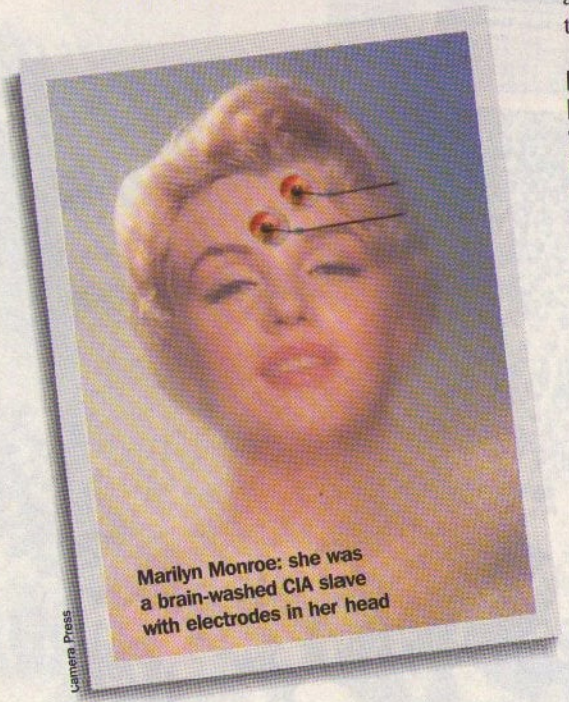
You're not convinced about aliens, but still want to blame someone for the parlous state of the world? You could always try the New World Order. This outfit – and before you ask, yes, it's supposed to be the brainchild of the 'international bankers' – is the invention of Americans who distrust 'Big Government', don't like bureaucrats, distrust 'experts' and are very suspicious when politicians try to take their guns away.

According to those who think they know, the New World Order (NWO) is a conspiracy of all governments everywhere against all people everywhere. Its front is the United Nations. As the USA is the richest country in the world, it's a special target for the NWO. At the same time the US Government is claimed to have done everything to help the NWO achieve its aims.

Social psychologist Evan Harrington has reported meeting two believers in the NWO at a conference on child abuse:

"We were joined by a man, who I'll call Felix, and his companion, who said that treatment for sex offenders is ultimately unnecessary because when the New World Order takes control of the country, members will shoot all prisoners and eliminate three-quarters of the world's population," he says rather ominously. "Then Felix described how the New World Order operated, manufacturing multiple personality disorder through torture and creating sex slaves and drug mules under the mind control of the CIA…

"Felix also described how the black helicopters of the New World Order landed in his hometown of Portland, Oregon, and black-suited storm troopers illegally searched all the homes in the neighbourhood. There was a total news blackout of this because, Felix said, the media are a part of the conspiracy. Later, Felix confided, the New World Order would not actually kill all the prisoners, but would use them as enforced slave labour."



Marilyn Monroe: she was a brain-washed CIA slave with electrodes in her head

Camera Press

Hard to believe? You've been brainwashed by the CIA

This is all pretty mainstream NWO fantasy. According to believers, the US Government has already refurbished dozens of disused military bases ready to turn them into concentration camps for US citizens. Quite how they'll squeeze everyone into these rather cramped quarters is a mere detail.

According to our friend Felix (this deep into weirdness, every believer's an expert), Charles Manson was programmed by the Illuminati, a secret society full of Jews (of course), with ties to the Freemasons, who have been working toward world domination since the 18th century. The Anti-Defamation League, a militant Jewish civil rights group, is controlled by satanists, and Marilyn Monroe was a brainwashed CIA mind-control slave.

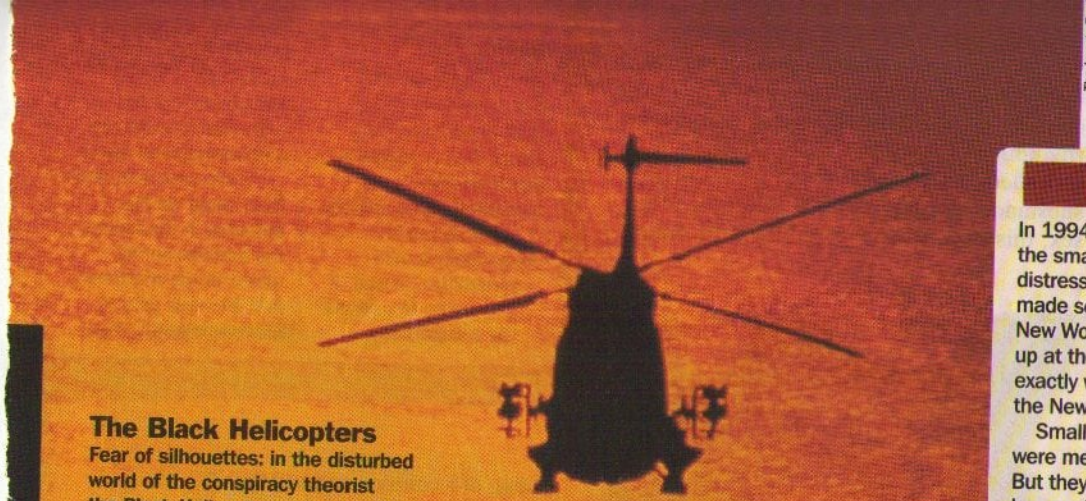
Cult leader Charles Manson and his 'Family'. Manson was programmed to instigate murder. Apparently

But she's not the only one. Anyone who disagrees with Felix is also a mind-control slave brainwashed by the CIA.

There are even people who claim to have been personally involved. Witness the famous American 'exploitee' Cathy O'Brian, who claims to have suffered years of torture by the CIA since she was a child. No one has ever actually seen her scars, photos of her scars, or doctors' reports about the scars, of course.

3-47

George Bush: the man said to have set up the US drugs trade in order to manufacture a call for arms control...



The Image Bank

The Black Helicopters
Fear of silhouettes: in the disturbed world of the conspiracy theorist the Black Helicopters are central symbols of the arrival of the New World Order in America

Airborne agents of doom

In 1994, the feared 'black helicopters' finally flew into the small town of Wickenburg, Arizona. Understandably distressed, the citizens of the town took up arms and made several fairly serious attempts to blow the incoming New World Order out of the sky. Worried townsfolk turned up at the gates of the local air base demanding to know exactly what manoeuvres the United Nations troops of the New World Order were performing in their back yard.

Small problem. The helicopters weren't black – they were merely silhouettes against the bright Arizona sky. But they did belong to the German Air Force, who had been using the base for training for years. Embarrassment all round, then – or nearly all round. The fact that the choppers were German merely served as 'proof' for the locals of a UN plot to invade the USA with foreign troops.

Topham

O'Brian says she was forced to have sex with a whole platoon of top American politicians, among them presidents George Bush, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford. She also insists, surprisingly, that the NWO runs the Country & Western music industry.

Satanists, ritual child-abusers, the CIA, the tax system, gun control... they're all entangled with the NWO. So sophisticated is the whole intricate plot that devotees spend years of their lives working on elaborate justifications for the weak spots in the structure.

Child-abuse therapist Jerry Mungadze is a good example in this instance. In answer to cynics who point out that with all this ritual child-abuse and sex orgies it's remarkable that none of the politicians have AIDS, Mungadze somewhat bizarrely claims that mind-control programming boosts the immune system, making victims resistant to HIV. You have to be a certain type of person to believe this...

Drugs and AIDS: the President's work

AIDS, according to conspiracy folklore, was originally a biological warfare agent created in a US government laboratory by genetic engineering and released by the CIA. Don't ask why – perhaps it was an attempt to reduce the world population, or to eradicate the gay population. To some NWO believers, homosexuals are virtually the agents of Satan anyway.

The New World Order would not kill the prisoners, but redeploy them... as slave labour

This plot, like all the others, hits a variety of insurmountable stumbling blocks. If AIDS is government-generated, then how come the US Government is spending so much money researching its cure? And how did the scientists manage to create it in the first place? The earliest known AIDS cases appeared in 1959, when no one even knew about genetic codes. Also, the way the HIV virus reproduces wasn't discovered until 1970, and no virus like it was known in humans until 1978.

Documented facts like this never faze NWO believers. Besides setting off the AIDS pandemic, they reckon the CIA is behind the drugs trade in the USA. The deal was set up by George Bush, when he was director of the Agency. The idea was to flood the streets with heroin and crack. They conveniently forget that the streets were already flooded. The theory then runs that crazed addicts would mug and shoot innocent citizens in order to get money for their habit. This would lead to outraged demands for gun control, enabling politicians to disarm the citizenry – so making them easy prey for the black-clad UN troops of the NWO in their sinister black helicopters.

It seems a shame to point out that you need a radio receiver and a power supply to pick up radio waves, but then who's to say the mattress makers aren't in on the act? Perhaps they're secreting long life batteries in the bedstead? Or maybe that chip in your forehead does the job? Either way, better sleep on a foam mattress until the Thought Police ban their sale and confiscate the rest.

world domination conspirators bite

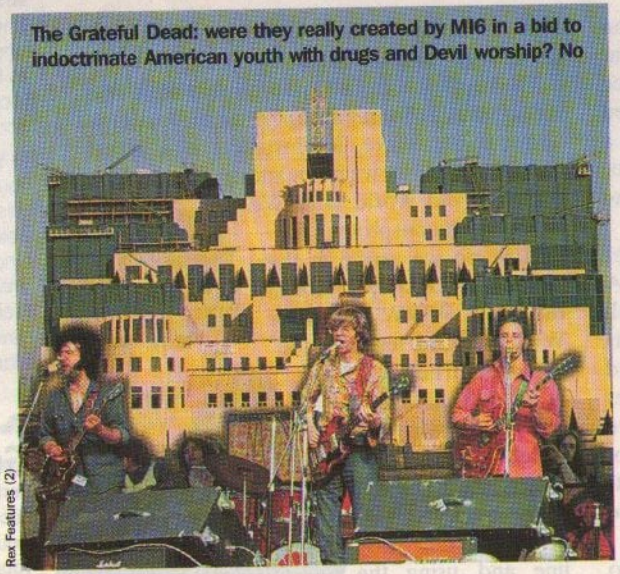
Sleeping on a box spring mattress leaves you easy prey to mind-control. Why? Simple. The springs are natural antennas to electromagnetic waves

Courtesy Slumberland

new coloured money, later debit cards and then the identi-chip (the same used today on dogs and cats for tracing the owners) to be injected by needle into the right hand or the forehead. The chip contains 400,000 bytes of information on you. At the supermarket you simply pass your hand over, or walk through, a scanner and the amount of purchase is removed from your bank account.

"The chip runs on a lithium battery which is recharged by your body heat. Eventually the chip starts to leak poison into your body; you will endure great pain and agony, with boils breaking out all over your body."

Now that would keep you in a constant state of fear, no question about it.



The Grateful Dead: were they really created by MI6 in a bid to indoctrinate American youth with drugs and Devil worship? No

Rex Features (2)

The word 'sex' is omnipresent

Few weird ideas about mind control can beat the one posted on the Net by an electrical engineer who'd somehow overlooked the messages coming out of his bedsprings (see 'Feds under the beds' above). Maybe he hadn't:

"In printed material such as magazines and newspapers, the words 'sex', 'sleep', 'obey', 'gay', 'kill', 'kill self', 'f**k', 'fear', and so on are embedded (lightly written) in the background of ads and pictures. The word 'sex' is omnipresent, and occurs as a mosaic several thousand times on the average page. 'Gay' and 'sleep' are generally written much larger than 'sex' and the lettering has a puffy cloud-like appearance. 'Kill', 'pain' and 'fear' are more usually reserved for children and hostile political leaders. Almost every child you see in print (*Time Magazine*, *Vogue*, your daily newspaper and so on) will have the word 'kill' embedded across his or her forehead. The idea behind this is quite clear: associate death with children...

"The birth rate in the US has gone from 3.9 children per female in 1950 to 1.2 children per female in 1990. Do you people get it? The mind manipulators have tricked you into not breeding! Through clever psychology, symbology, and subliminal stimuli the mind manipulators will soon have your birth rate at zero per female, or simply extinct!"

If we all die out, who'll be left to brainwash through cable TV?

Even if you haven't noticed any burning desire to murder the contestants on *Blind Date* (and let's face it, if this doesn't do the trick, nothing will), you might have spotted the drawback with this argument: if we all die off, doesn't that rather scupper the advertisers' market? After all, who are they going to sell all their useless products to when we all die without heirs? Who'll welcome the Antichrist, work for the New World Order, monitor people through their cable TVs, fix the monorail on the dark side of the moon, run the colonies on Mars and shoot the President?

Dirck Halstead / Liaison / FSP

Paranoia mania

And now for the real screamers. Hold on to your hats, 'cos here come the Loony Tunes theories

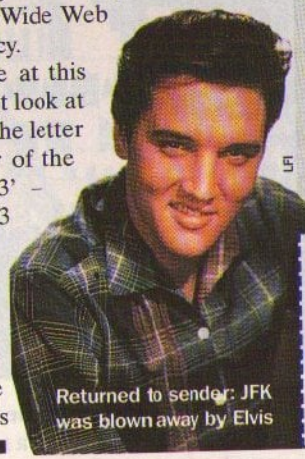
What was that about Hillary Clinton being a spy? The story goes that she and White House aide Vince Foster, whose much-publicised suicide in 1992 has frequently been labelled a 'murder' by cover-up and conspiracy addicts, were selling top-secret computer codes to the Israeli intelligence agency MOSSAD.

All this supposedly came to light after Foster's death, when a rogue group of CIA computer hackers known as the 'Fifth Column' broke into his Swiss bank accounts and discovered $2.73 million there, deposited by MOSSAD. Then, beginning in October 1995, high-level CIA officials began sensitive one-to-one briefings with key members of Congress and those with intelligence committee assignments. All parties involved in the talks were sworn to secrecy.

The purpose of these briefings, according to conspiracy buffs: to prepare the politicians for cataclysmic events ahead, including the possible flight of the First Lady to a foreign country and the collapse of Bill Clinton's presidency.

The best bit about all this paranoid nonsense is that you can forget all that tiresome business about proof. Here, for instance, is a quick conspiracy theory we just made up: the good old World Wide Web is a Satanist conspiracy.

How do we arrive at this conclusion? Easy, just look at the prefix 'WWW'. The letter W is the 23rd letter of the alphabet. That's '2,3' – or 2 multiplied by 3 repeated twice – which is 666. Hey presto: the number of the Beast, who is obviously now online and using the Internet to spread his wicked doctrines... ■



LFI

Returned to sender: JFK was blown away by Elvis

former Vatican 'counter-intelligence agent' says in a recent Internet posting that the Pope has put a hit squad on his trail after discovering a direct computer link between the Vatican and the Hubble space telescope – which was strangely enough, pointed at, wait for it... Hale-Bopp and its mystery companion!

● **The Gemstone conspiracy** – Aristotle Onassis ruled the world, according to this one, which also includes such 'gems' as American President Franklin D Roosevelt being a heroin dealer on a massive scale, billionaire Howard Hughes being kidnapped and a double substituted in 1957, and Onassis fixing both JFK's election to office and assassination.

FSP

● **They read your mind and rule the world** Said to be a secret group of 13 top psychics who control governments, banks, the media, and you too – since they can read your mind and instantly scupper any plan you may hatch to blow their cover. The group apparently included the late Doris Stokes, amongst other household names still alive and kicking today...

● **Who assassinated John F Kennedy?** You'd think Elvis was an unlikely contender for this one, but there are sadsters who genuinely believe that it was the Cheeseburger himself who shot Kennedy with a Colt .45 pistol from a drain at the side of Dealey Plaza. His motive? Well, obviously it was jealous rage sparked by news that JFK was knocking off Marilyn Monroe. Well, stands to reason, dunnit?

Got a mad theory?

Perhaps you have some pet paranoias. If so, *Focus* (probably uniquely in the civilised world) would actually like to hear from you. Send us your spookiest conspiracy theories, and we'll have a good laugh at them. The saddest and/or most disturbing wins £50 worth of CD tokens

Next Month: Serial Killers

The men who made killing a way of life

The killers
Dahmer ate his victims. Christie buried them in the kitchen. *Focus* opens the 'monster' files...

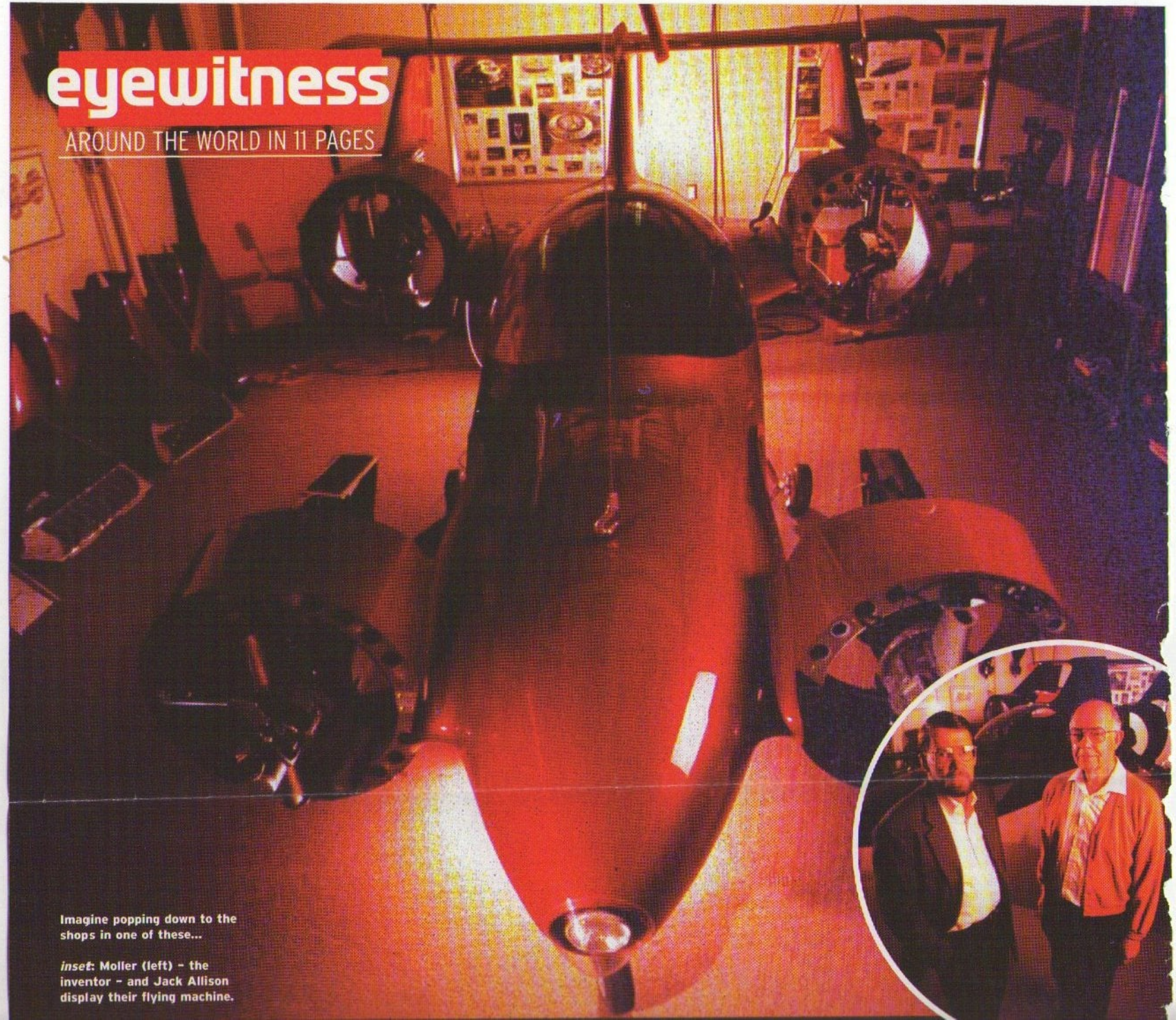
The victims
Some died in agony, after days of torture. Others died within minutes of meeting their murderer

The background
Nilsen wrote poetry... about dissolving bodies in acid. Hell, these days even killers have culture

The expert
Brian Masters has spent a life-time studying and talking to serial killers. Now he writes for *Focus*

eyewitness

AROUND THE WORLD IN 11 PAGES



Imagine popping down to the shops in one of these...

inset: Moller (left) – the inventor – and Jack Allison display their flying machine.

A moon in the making...

According to William L Brian II, there wouldn't even be a moon if it wasn't for the aliens. The moon craters are the handiwork of "sophisticated weapons used in a terrible war involving the moon," which took place "less than 30,000 years ago" (well, that narrows it down a bit). Brian describes a *Star Wars*-like drama in which a hollow planet between Mars and Jupiter was obliterated by hi-tech particle beam weapons, leaving behind our latter-day asteroid belt. That asteroid belt planet had a moon which, thanks to "great levitating or gravity-inducing beams", was transported into the orbit of its new host: Planet Earth. Phew!

NASA / JPL

These theories are all very well, but why, exactly, would NASA attempt to cover-up the moon's true gravity and atmosphere? In particular, why would they want to hide what Brian describes as the moon's "saffron-coloured sky, vegetation and animal life, snow-capped mountains, lakes and rivers"?

Why? Because aliens live there, of course. They even have an anti-gravity monorail (according to Brian). And everyone knows that no government organisation on Earth will ever admit to knowing anything about aliens.

Scientists can't resist pointing out that if the moon's gravitational field is as powerful as Brian says, the Moon would have to weigh a lot more than it does. In which case, it would be in a different orbit, since that is governed by the moon's mass and Earth's gravitational pull. But Brian is convinced he knows better. However, all of which pales beside the claims made by Milton William Cooper in various Internet postings at the end of the Eighties...

Alien-gate: are the Super Powers part of a secret Alien coalition?

"This file contains the absolute true information regarding the alien presence on Earth and the US government's involvement with the aliens," Cooper trumpeted, working up to the thrilling climax: "This file is my death warrant." (Seven years later, he appears to be very much alive and well, and living in Arizona).

Cooper has his own theories on why the US space program was one gigantic hoax. He maintains that even as President Kennedy announced the plan to put a man on the Moon, a joint alien/USA/USSR moonbase already existed. Furthermore, he insists that on 22 May 1962, "a space probe landed on Mars and confirmed the existence of an environment which could support life. Not long afterward, the construction of a colony on the planet Mars began in earnest. Cities now exist on Mars populated by specifically selected people from different cultures and occupations, taken from all over the Earth.

"A charade of antagonism between the Soviet Union and the United States has been maintained over all these years in order to fund projects in the name of National Defense – when in fact we are close allies."

Cooper maintained that Kennedy had been killed in Dallas in 1963 because he was about to reveal 'The Truth' about the alien presence on Earth (not to mention Mars). He rather spoiled his case by showing a film of the assassination that, he said, showed the driver of Kennedy's car, Bill Greer, firing the fatal shot. As revealed in our October issue, the film shows both Greer's hands firmly on the wheel. Perhaps he was a three-armed alien?

There's absolutely nothing new about the International-Alien conspiracy, according to Cooper. "Throughout our history the aliens have manipulated and ruled the human race through religion, witchcraft and the occult.

"The secret government, in cahoots with the aliens, has a fiendish plan to establish colonies in outer space. I am not able to either confirm or deny the existence of 'Batch Consignments' of human slaves to be used for manual labour.

"As a delaying action [the plan] included birth control, sterilisation, and the introduction of deadly microbes to slow the growth of the Earth's population. AIDS is only *one* result of these plans." Astonishing.

Did NASA stage the biggest cover-up in history to protect moon aliens?

After this dreadful drivel, Cooper published a book titled *Behold A Pale Horse* in which he revealed who was really behind the secret government – the 'international bankers', a codeword for the Jews (who must be very weary of having to take the blame for just about everything). Cooper underlined his slander by reproducing a particularly nasty fake document, *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, which pretends to prove how the Jews are totally committed to world domination.

This deeply disturbing document is so appallingly bad that even the virulently antisemitic Adolf Hitler was forced to admit that it was a counterfeit.

But to those who want to believe them, the old lies are always the best.

It's not your body, it's your

It doesn't stop with the routine whitewashes, cover-ups and murders. What the Bad Guys are really after, claim the conspiracy theorists, is to actually control the way that you think

One of the conspiracy buff's favourite fears is that Big Brother is not just watching you – through your cable TV, for instance – but is making sure you think the right thoughts. It must be hard enough already for subscribers to this paranoia to decide who the real enemy is: extra-terrestrial aliens, the New World Order, government spies (mainly the CIA), Jews, Satan himself or even Queen Elizabeth II who, some have solemnly declared, is the Great Beast described in the Book of Revelation. Amongst the crazier letters received by *Focus* over the last few years are several lengthy expositions of the Queen's relationship with the Devil, with incredible family trees demonstrating her links to Satanists of the past, as well as tortured numerological 'evidence' of her alleged fascination with the number 666. Some of these theses run to thousands of words and page after page of close type.

If it's difficult to understand why anybody would want to waste their time with all this rubbish, it's harder still to decide how all these wicked folk are actually controlling our minds, given all the explanations on offer.

The rock group The Grateful Dead was set up by British intelligence

Cathy O'Brian claimed her brain was washed by traditional means – beatings and sexual abuse, the stand-bys of torturers down the

LSD and related experiments."

And why, pray, would British intelligence want to set up a progressive acid rock group?

"Well, this is part of the Satanism business," explains LaRouche. "Rock is basically a revival of the ancient Dionysic, Bacchic rituals. Lots of people for long periods of time take part in that kind of rhythmic ritual . It was probably struck upon empirically many thousands of years ago for this type of cult. It has a relationship with the Alpha rhythms of the brain. If combined with a little alcohol and, shall we say, mood-shaping substances, together with youth, with funny sex, this does tend to produce a profound change of a counter-cultural type."

Rex Features / Ardea

Hmm, that's conspiracy for you. But doesn't a cool look at the history of rock'n'roll over the last 40 years suggest strongly that while the stars have been getting progressively more debauched and depraved, they've got a long way to go before they catch up with their fans, who've always been much more degenerate, dissolute and perverse (and more imaginative,

Forget FEDS under the beds – n

The nuttiest method of mind control we've spotted is the wheeze identified by post on the Net, which just goes to show that staying in bed to hide yourself away from the world isn't actually such a good idea after all:

"Just program the needed info to affect their brain while they sleep! This is people's most receptive and vulnerable state anyway.

"An antenna is essentially a mini-transmitter as well. If it is made to oscillate by a suitable resonant frequency, by transmitting the carrier waves in the TV/FM range and modulating them in the form of ELF/ULF range. When a human body is lying down in a metal-spring mattress, it's within inches of the metallic spring grid... These springs are natural antennas to incoming electromagnetic waves.

"While we are in deep REM sleep we are enfolded in the field of the metallic spring matrix of the mattress, and are easy prey to Electromagnetic Wave

NASA / JPL

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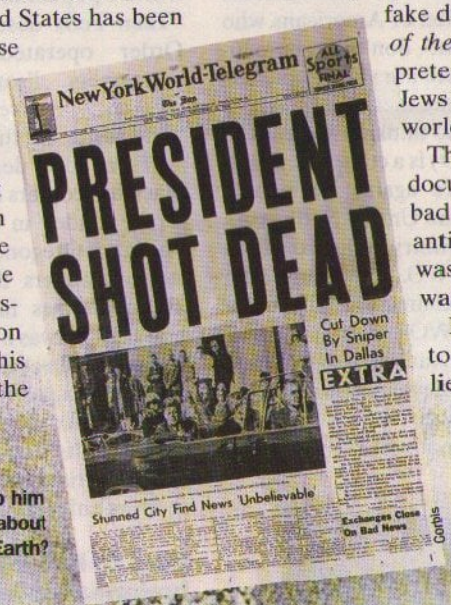
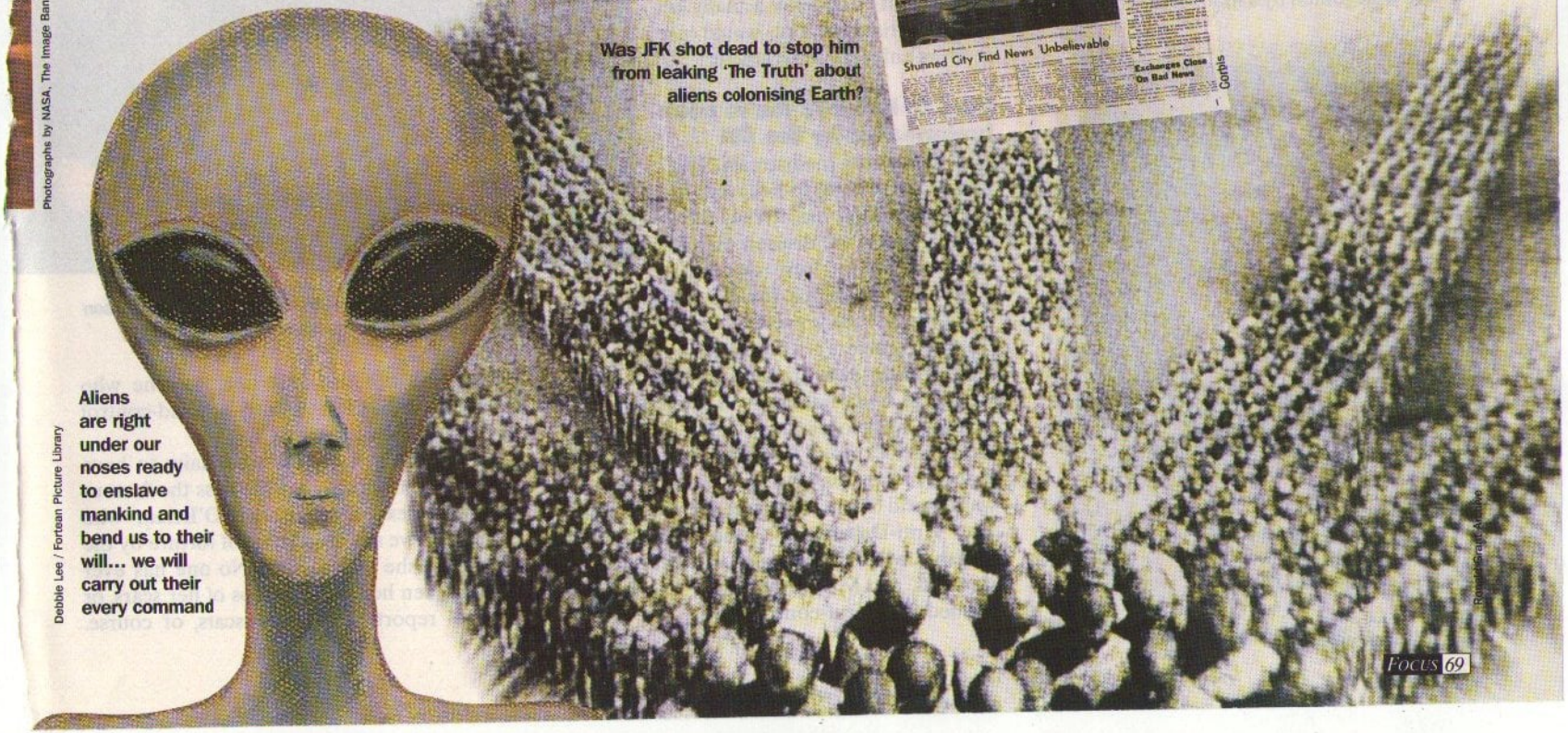


Was JFK shot dead to stop him from leaking 'The Truth' about aliens colonising Earth?

Photographs by NASA, The Image Bank



Aliens are right under our noses ready to enslave mankind and bend us to their will... we will carry out their every command

Debbie Lee / Fortean Picture Library

That's one small step for man, one giant lie for mankind

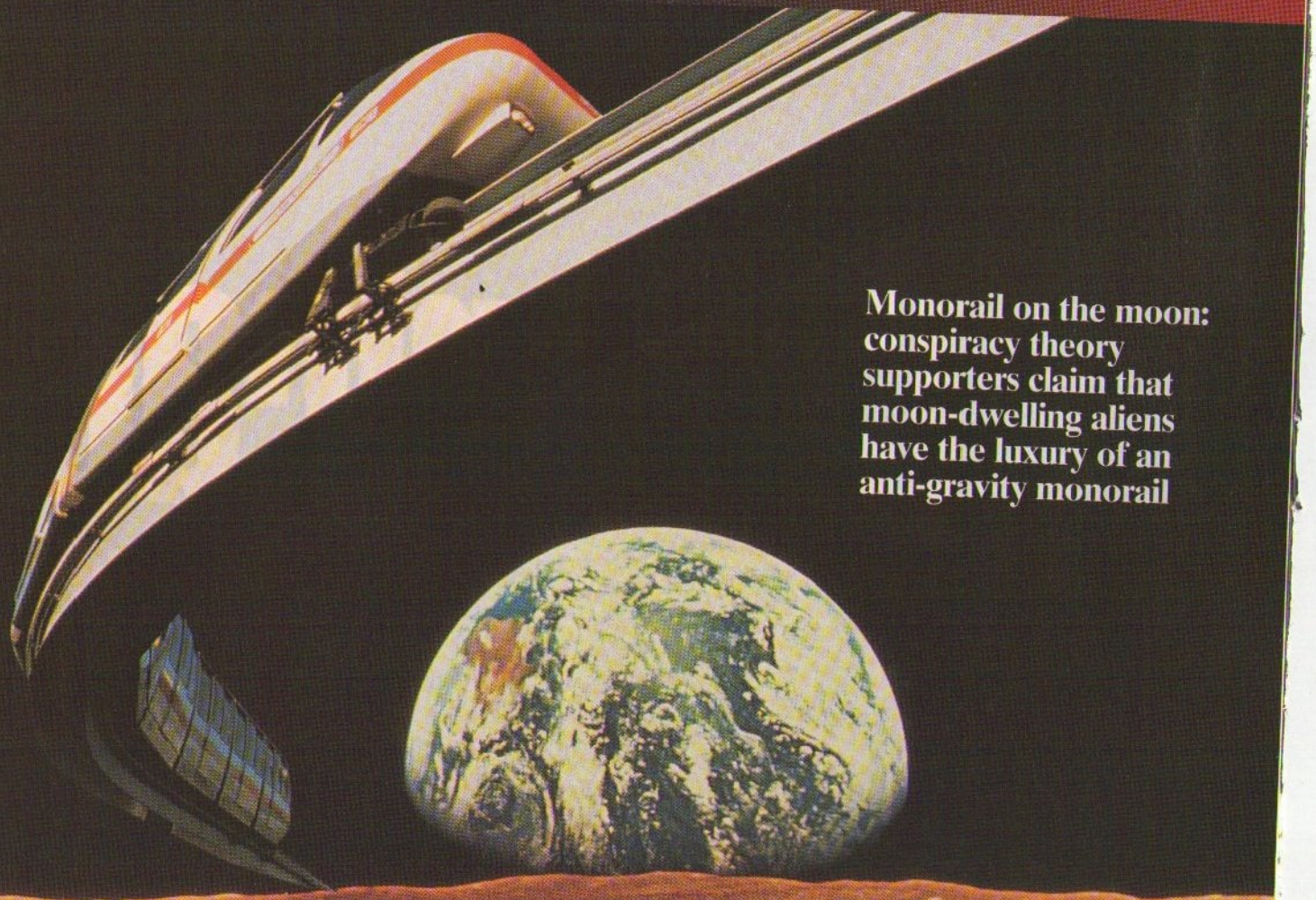
Did we ever make it to the moon, or was the Space Race a sinister cover-up by the Super Powers? The man-on-the-moon plot is just the start of it...

Some of us can actually remember the Apollo 11 show that NASA put on in July 1969, when half the world sat glued to their TVs watching Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin cavorting around on the moon. At the time, people joked that it was complete make-believe. Today you'll still find people who think that it was a put-up job by NASA, shot in a Hollywood studio.

The Nobody-Went-To-The-Moon theory doesn't grab everyone on the conspiracy circuit, some insist that a different, much more sinister cover-up took place. They believe in the existence of secret tapes on which Aldrin and Armstrong are recorded gasping at the vast array of UFOs parked around their landing site. NASA, of course, censored the exchange and the astronauts have since denied seeing anything – but they would, wouldn't they? Not much point in citing all the evidence that the tapes were a hoax, then.

William L Brian II has another take on the Nobody-Went-To-The-Moon line. According to the cover notes on his book *Moongate: Suppressed Findings of the U.S. Space Program*, he "has the mathematical and conceptual skills to verify the cover-up from a scientific standpoint". Once inside, Brian proceeds to batter the reader with many an algebraic formula that, he says, prove the Moon's gravitational field is 64 per cent as strong as Earth's. Brian reasons that NASA employed 'semi-slow motion' photography to create the clever illusion of the astronauts bouncing about under low gravity.

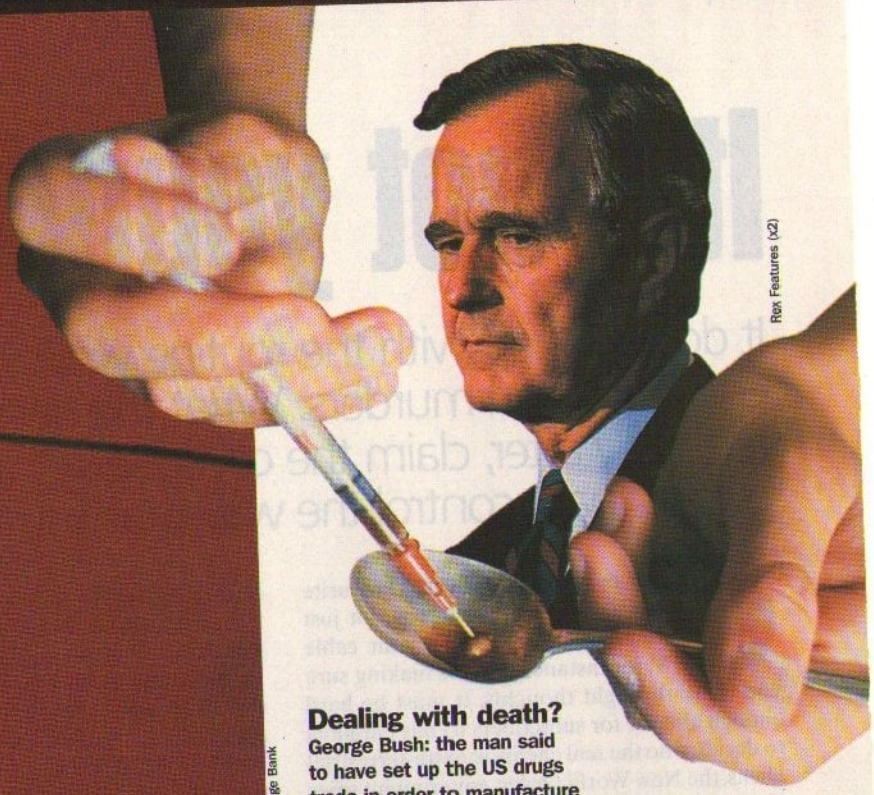
So what are we to make of the Apollo 15 crew's recreation of Galileo's famous experiment, in which a hammer and feather were dropped on the 'airless' Moon and both fell at the same rate? "The feather probably concealed a rather heavy object," says Brian, without a flicker of a smile. Strong lunar gravity also means that the Moon could hold an atmosphere to its bosom. Where there's air, there may be life, runs Brian's reasoning.



Monorail on the moon: conspiracy theory supporters claim that moon-dwelling aliens have the luxury of an anti-gravity monorail

That's one small step for man, one giant lie for mankind

The Black Helicopters
Fear of silhouettes: in the disturbed world of the conspiracy theorist the Black Helicopters are central symbols of the arrival of the New World Order in America



The Image Bank

Rex Features (x2)

Dealing with death?
George Bush: the man said to have set up the US drugs trade in order to manufacture a call for arms control...

Airborne agents of doom

In 1994, the feared 'black helicopters' finally flew into the small town of Wickenburg, Arizona. Understandably distressed, the citizens of the town took up arms and made several fairly serious attempts to blow the incoming New World Order out of the sky. Worried townsfolk turned up at the gates of the local air base demanding to know exactly what manoeuvres the United Nations troops of the New World Order were performing in their back yard.

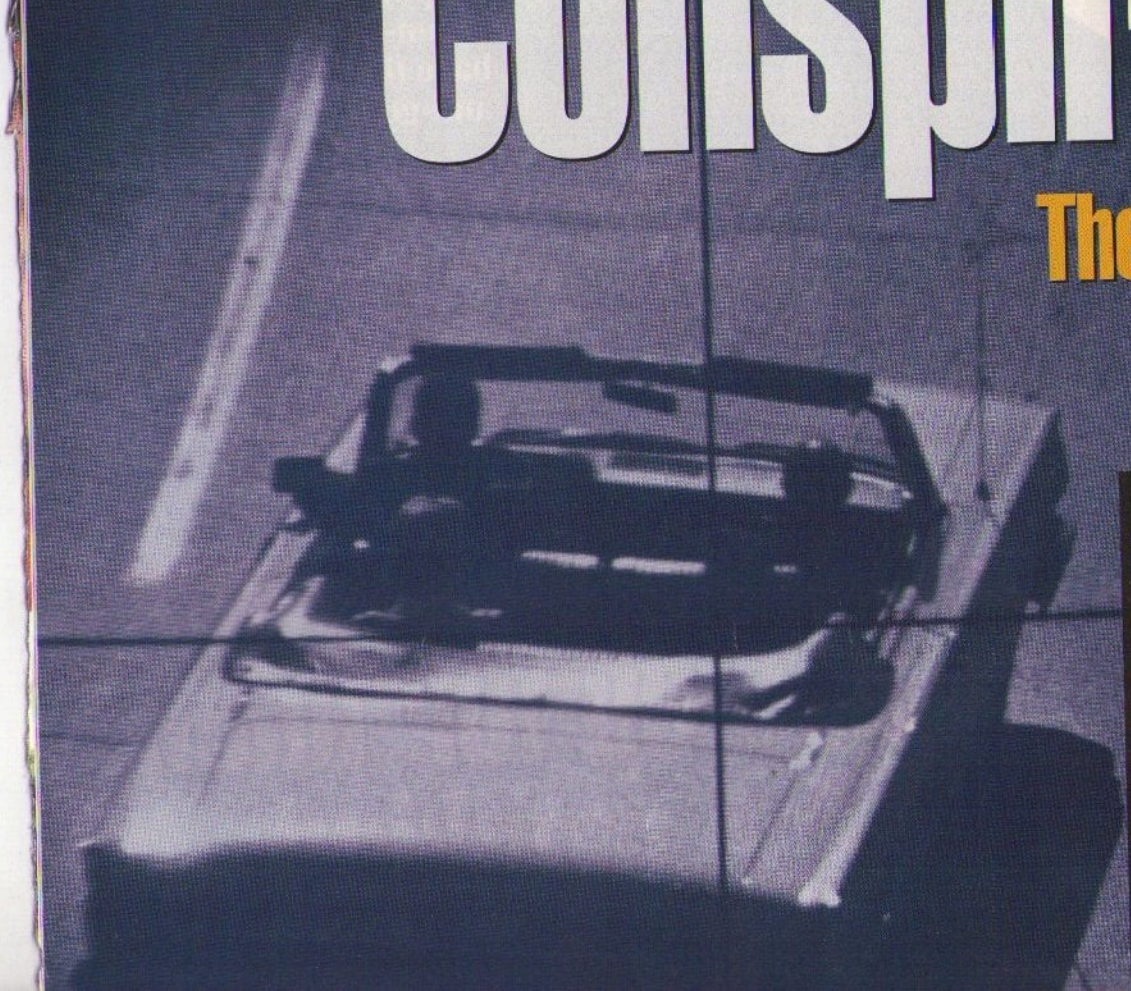
Small problem. The helicopters weren't black – they were merely silhouettes against the bright Arizona sky. But they did belong to the German Air Force, who had been using the base for training for years. Embarrassment all round, then – or nearly all round. The fact that the choppers were German merely served as 'proof' for the locals of a UN plot to invade the USA with foreign troops.

Extra

WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON IN THE WORLD

Conspiracy!

The world's most sinister plots



Bizarre, pointless and without proof – but people do believe them

By Peter Brookesmith

We've all heard the one about the CIA and the Mafia getting together in 1963 to dispose of American President John F Kennedy. Lee Harvey Oswald apparently had nothing to do with it. And we've all heard the other one about how no astronaut has ever set foot on the Moon – it was all faked up in a studio…

And there's more – if you're a top-notch conspiracy buff, almost anything that appears decided and definite is open to question. You may not know, for instance, that America is

1: Rollbahn
2: Groom Lake
3: Zubringer zur Rollbahn
4: »Hangar 18«
5: Schlafräume für Personal
6: Munitionslager
7: Radaranlage
8: Hangars
9: Werkstätten
10: Radaranlage

AREA 51

Die Geheimbasis am ausgetrockneten Groom Lake ist durch umliegende Berge vor neugierigen Blicken geschützt. Die Landebahn hat eine Länge von 9,6 Kilometern. Vor kurzem wurde benachbartes Land dazugekauft, damit Schaulustige auf Distanz gehalten werden können

BERNARD THOUANEL (2)

VON ANDREAS SÉCHÉ

Die kleine, einmotorige Propellermaschine brummt heran und zieht ihre Kreise über der schroffen Wüste von Nevada, 150 Kilometer nördlich von Las Vegas. Im Cockpit sitzen Tony LeVier und Dorsey Kammerier, zwei als Jäger verkleidete Männer. Seit gestern sind sie auf der Suche. Dutzende von gottverlassenen Gegenden in Arizona und Nevada haben sie schon überflogen, fotografiert, penibel protokolliert und bewertet.

Der ausgetrocknete Groom Lake ist das letzte Ziel, und das Gelände da unten scheint für ihre Zwecke wie geschaffen: Die große, flache Ebene ist von Bergen umringt, also schwer einzusehen; in der Nähe liegt das Testgelände der Atomic Energy Commission – Atombombentests halten Neugierige aus der Gegend fern. Das Flugzeug mit LeVier und Kammerier schwirrt wieder ab, ein folgenschwerer Tag im Januar 1955 geht zu Ende. Kurz darauf rücken die ersten Bauarbeiter an.

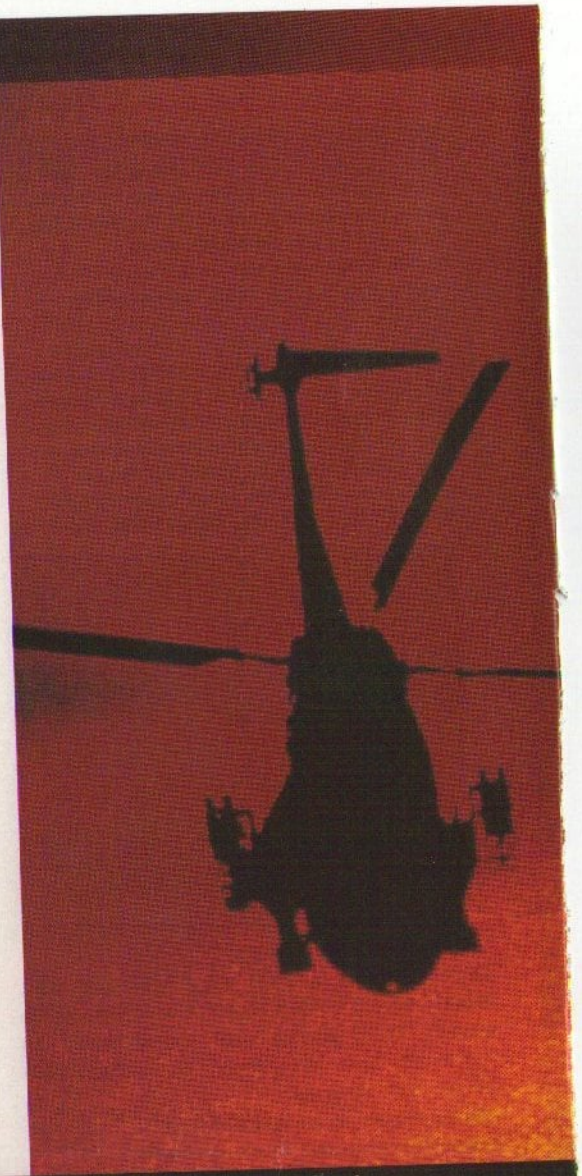
Heute liegt am Groom Lake eine in öffentliche Landkarten nicht eingezeichnete, sechs mal zehn Meilen große Anlage: Area 51 – benannt nach einem Plan aus den 50er Jahren, der die Einöde von Nevada für Atombombentests in Planquadrate zerlegte. Was hohe Zäune verbergen, ist der Inbegriff des Geheimnisses: Seit Bestehen der Anlage reißen die Gerüchte nicht ab, hier würden UFOs und Aliens erforscht. Und weil Area 51 in dem Kinofilm »Independence Day« eine Rolle spielte, kam der Bundesstaat Nevada auf die Idee, einen Teil der zum Gelände führenden Route 375 in »Extraterrestrial Highway« (»Außerirdische Autobahn«) umzutaufen.

Hangars und Gebäude wurden in Area 51 aus dem Boden gestampft, riesige Treibstofftanks und Landebahnen, von denen die längste unglaubliche 9,6 Kilometer mißt. Satellitenaufnahmen lassen über 100 Bauten erkennen; es gibt offenbar ein Schwimmbad, etliche Unterkünfte, ein Theater und mehrere Geschäfte – eine richtige kleine Stadt in der Wüste. Das auffälligste Gebäude ist der »Hangar 18« (benannt nach einem sehr ähnlichen Hangar in Ohio): Er ist so groß, daß ein Spaceshuttle huckepack auf einem Flugzeug hineinpaßt.

Manche vermuten, daß Area 51 eine Art Eisberg in der Wüste ist: Das Sichtbare ist nur die Spitze, das ganze Gelände soll weiträumig unterkellert und von kilometerlangen Gängen durchzogen sein. Aber das sind Gerüchte, für die es keinen Beweis gibt. Täglich werden von einem Sonderterminal des Flughafens Las Vegas bis zu 1500 Menschen mit Boing-737-

Invasion of the unknown enemy

In the mind of the conspiracy theorist everything is part of a plot to undermine the ordinary citizen. Bankers, brainwashing, even black helicopters: and you thought that *you* were paranoid...



You're not convinced about aliens, but still want to blame someone for the parlous state of the world? You could always try the New World Order. This outfit – and before you ask, yes, it's supposed to be the brainchild of the 'international bankers' – is the invention of Americans who distrust 'Big Government', don't like bureaucrats, distrust 'experts' and are very suspicious when politicians try to take their guns away.

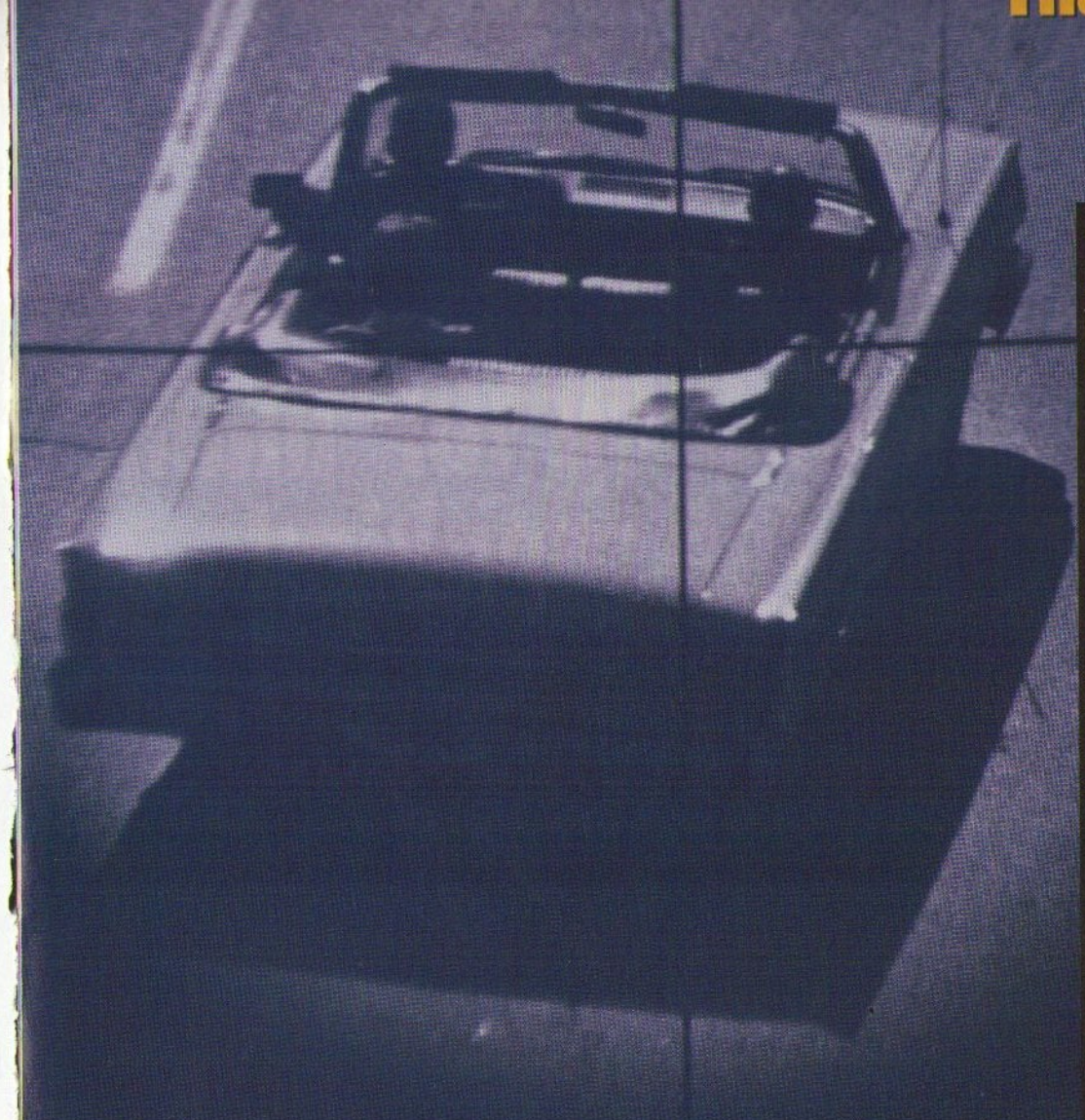
According to those who think they know, the New World Order (NWO) is a conspiracy of all governments everywhere against all people everywhere. Its front is the United Nations. As the USA is the richest country in the world, it's a special target for the NWO. At the same time the US Government is claimed to have done everything to help the NWO achieve its aims.

Social psychologist Evan Harrington has reported meeting two believers in the NWO at a conference on child abuse:

"We were joined by a man, who I'll call Felix, and his companion, who said that treatment for sex offenders is ultimately unnecessary because when the New World Order takes control of the country, members will shoot all prisoners and eliminate three-quarters of the world's population," he says rather ominously. "Then Felix described how the New World Order operated, manufacturing multiple personality disorder through torture and creating sex slaves and drug mules under the mind control of the CIA...

"Felix also described how the black helicopters of the New World Order landed in his hometown of Portland, Oregon, and black-suited storm troopers illegally searched all the homes in the neighbourhood. There was a total news blackout of this because, Felix said, the media are a part of the conspiracy. Later, Felix confided, the New World Order would not actually kill all the prisoners, but would use

sinister plots



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And there's more – if you're a top-notch conspiracy buff, almost anything that appears decided and definite is open to question. You may not know, for instance, that America is still owned and run by Great Britain, by means of the Virginia Trust – a company originally founded by Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette when they fled to America during the French revolution (they weren't executed, as perfidious historians claim). Later acquired by the British, the Trust bought up all the banking, railroad and mining rights in the US, and now controls the American economy. That's why Queen Elizabeth knighted George Bush – a reward for doing her bidding.

Er, right. Pigs might fly. And Hillary Clinton's working behind the scenes for MOSSAD.

Well, actually she is. And pigs *can* fly. It's true, honest. We've seen the proof. It's all there, trust us. You've got to believe it…

Corbis / Bettmann

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The moon's not a dead rock in space, and mankind's never been there. Oh, and there's also a joint USA-USSR-alien base installed

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They're disguised as UN troops and they always come in black helicopters. The faceless villains are coming to take you away…

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US rockers The Grateful Dead were created by MI6 – which is also controlling your thoughts via your bedsprings. It's true!

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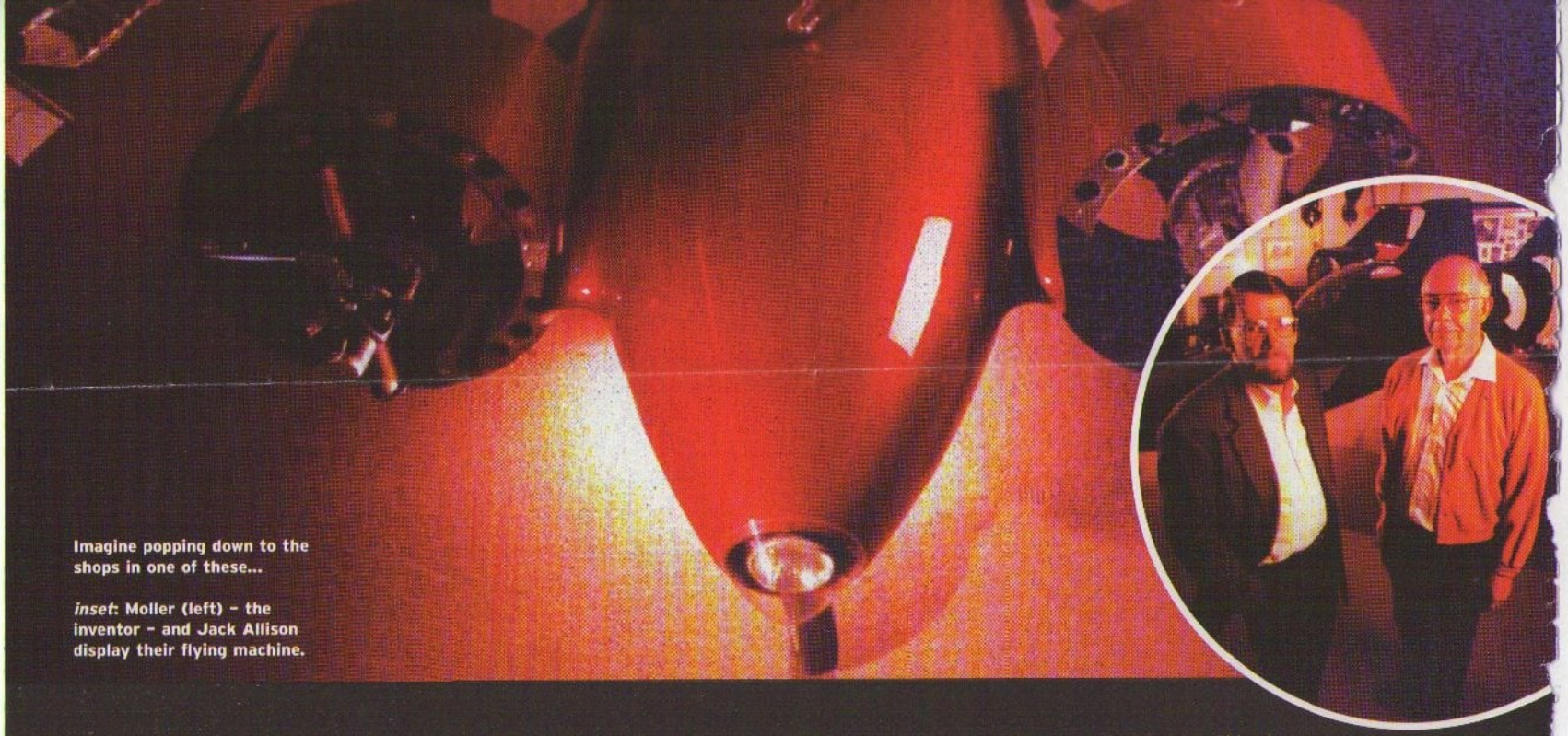
A round-up of the best of the really barking conspiracy theories. Find out exactly how Elvis shot JFK, and where to find Satan's website



Imagine popping down to the shops in one of these...

inset: Moller (left) – the inventor – and Jack Allison display their flying machine.

NATIONAL NEWS AND PICTURES

BABY, YOU CAN FLY MY CAR

Flying car passes final test before lift-off

If Dick Van Dyck was young again, he'd ditch Chitty Chitty Bang Bang for this futuristic flying machine. The SkyCar is the definitive answer to M25 traffic jams, and if all goes to plan its first test flight could go ahead later this month.

SkyCar is the brain child of Dr Paul Moller. Shaped like the Batmobile and weighing in at 1,000kg it's the first real-life flying car. Not much wider than a family saloon, inside its pressurised compartment there's enough room for four passengers. But unless you're a lottery winner you might have to wait before trading your Fiesta for what Moller affectionately calls a Volantor. At present one of these red devils will set you back £600,000, though Moller predicts that with mass production the price could drop to £40,000.

At the heart of the project lies Moller's revolutionary Rotary Wankel Engine. Jack Allison, Vice President of Moller International, calls it "the enabling technology of the SkyCar." Unlike conventional engines it has no pistons. Instead a triangular rotor turns inside the combustion chamber. This means there are relatively few moving parts making the engine potentially very reliable. Eight Wankels power SkyCar, producing 12,000 newtons of thrust, and giving SkyCar a top speed of 600kph. Running on petrol the engine's consumption is about 8km to the litre, but the gas guzzling motor can be converted to run off natural gas or alcohol for a more environmentally friendly ride.

"We've just finished testing the engines on their own," Allison told *Frontiers*. "Once we put them back in, install the electronics and computer controlled fly-by-wire system we're ready for lift-off."

Dr Moller will pilot the first test flight. But because he doesn't hold a pilot's licence, he'll fly the vehicle tethered to a crane. SkyCar will be attached by three lengths of steel cable fixed to strong points on its body. Moller plans to launch to a height of 2 to 3 metres on the first test flight and stay aloft for one to two minutes, manoeuvring horizontally over a circular area 60m in diameter to test its handling. If all goes to plan a test pilot will be called in to fly future test flights.

But Moller's grand vision is for the car to be pilotless. "We foresee the day where the control of the Skycar will be completely automated – up to voice command. You'd get in, tell it where to go and it'd take you there."

Dirck Halstead / Liaison / FSP

Paranoia mania

And now for the real screamers. Hold on to your hats, 'cos here come the Loony Tunes theories

What was that about Hillary Clinton being a spy? The story goes that she and White House aide Vince Foster, whose much-publicised

flight of the First Lady to a foreign country and the collapse of Bill Clinton's presidency.

The best bit about all this paranoid nonsense is that you can forget all that tiresome business

More mad 'conspiracies'

Just in case you're thinking that the stories we've covered so far are the craziest of the crazies, think again. Here's a brief selection of the conspiracy theories we deemed frankly too lame and/or silly even for publication in a feature about lame, silly conspiracy theories. Don't say we didn't warn you...

- **Comet Hale-Bopp's big brother** – some paranoid UFO buffs and conspiracy addicts claim to have evidence that Comet Hale-Bopp, now hurtling towards the solar system, is accompanied by an Earth-sized object under intelligent control – a 'fact' covered up, of course, by NASA and a set of establishment astronomers. Some claim that this is the hollow planetoid carrying 40 million reptilian aliens that psychics predicted in 1990 would be arriving to invade Earth this year or next...

- **Vatican nonsense** – a character calling himself 'Wormwood' and claiming to be a former Vatican 'counter-intelligence agent' says in a recent Internet posting that the Pope has put a hit squad on his trail after discovering a direct computer link between the Vatican and the Hubble space telescope – which was strangely enough, pointed at, wait for it... Hale-Bopp and its mystery companion!

- **The Gemstone conspiracy** – Aristotle Onassis ruled the world, according to this one, which also includes such 'gems' as American President Franklin D Roosevelt being a heroin dealer on a massive scale, billionaire Howard Hughes being kidnapped and a double substituted in 1957, and Onassis fixing both JFK's election to office and assassination.

FSP

- **They read your mind and rule the world** Said to be a secret group of 13 top psychics who control governments, banks, the media, and you too – since they can read your mind and instantly scupper any plan you may hatch to blow their cover. The group apparently included the late Doris Stokes, amongst other household names still alive and kicking today...

mind they want

Sleep tight, don't let the sinister brain-washing world domination conspirators bite

Courtesy Slumberland

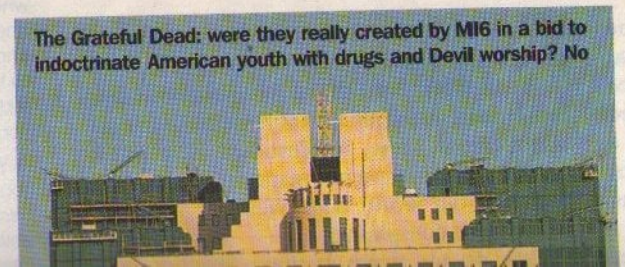
Sleeping on a box spring mattress leaves you easy prey to mind-control. Why? Simple. The springs are natural antennas to electromagnetic waves

ow they're in them

Programming – in a positively ideal state of receptivity indeed!"

It seems a shame to point out that you need a radio receiver and a power supply to pick up radio waves, but then who's to say the mattress makers aren't in on the act? Perhaps they're secreting long life batteries in the bedstead? Or maybe that chip in your forehead does the job? Either way, better sleep on a foam mattress until the Thought Police ban their sale and confiscate the rest.

new coloured money, later debit cards and then the identi-chip (the same used today on dogs and cats for tracing the owners) to be injected by needle into the right hand or the forehead. The chip contains 400,000 bytes of information on you. At the supermarket you simply pass your hand over, or walk through, a



The Grateful Dead: were they really created by MI6 in a bid to indoctrinate American youth with drugs and Devil worship? No

newspaper and so on) will have the word 'kill' embedded across his or her forehead. The idea behind this is quite clear: associate death with children…

"The birth rate in the US has gone from 3.9 children per female in 1950 to 1.2 children per female in 1990. Do you people get it? The mind manipulators have tricked you into not breeding! Through

you think the right thoughts. It must be hard enough already for subscribers to this paranoia to decide who the real enemy is: extra-terrestrial aliens, the New World Order, government spies (mainly the CIA), Jews, Satan himself or even Queen Elizabeth II who, some have solemnly declared, is the Great Beast described in the Book of Revelation. Amongst the crazier letters received by *Focus* over the last few years are several lengthy expositions of the Queen's relationship with the Devil, with incredible family trees demonstrating her links to Satanists of the past, as well as tortured numerological 'evidence' of her alleged fascination with the number 666. Some of these theses run to thousands of words and page after page of close type.

If it's difficult to understand why anybody would want to waste their time with all this rubbish, it's harder still to decide how all these wicked folk are actually controlling our minds, given all the explanations on offer.

The rock group The Grateful Dead was set up by British intelligence

Cathy O'Brian claimed her brain was washed by traditional means – beatings and sexual abuse, the stand-bys of torturers down the ages. But according to sometime US presidential candidate, way-out Lyndon LaRouche, rock'n'roll has played a significant role. Interviewed by conspiracy chronicler and noted author Jonathan Vankin, LaRouche declared that the CIA's MK-ULTRA programme (a genuine attempt to find ways of controlling people through hypnosis and drugs) "was run together with the occult types in British intelligence, who created, for example, The Grateful Dead... The first United States-grown rock group of that type, The Grateful Dead, was generated as a British intelligence operation by the Occult Bureau out of the Palo Alto Veteran's Hospital where they were doing a revival of the ancient Dionysic, Bacchic rituals. Lots of people for long periods of time take part in that kind of rhythmic ritual. It was probably struck upon empirically many thousands of years ago for this type of cult. It has a relationship with the Alpha rhythms of the brain. If combined with a little alcohol and, shall we say, mood-shaping substances, together with youth, with funny sex, this does tend to produce a profound change of a counter-cultural type."

Rex Features / Ardea

Believe it or not, some people think that the Queen is the Devil. If so, what, exactly, is Princess Margaret?

Hmm, that's conspiracy for you. But doesn't a cool look at the history of rock'n'roll over the last 40 years suggest strongly that while the stars have been getting progressively more debauched and depraved, they've got a long way to go before they catch up with their fans, who've always been much more degenerate, dissolute and perverse (and more imaginative, frankly) than any rocker? But we digress...

"They'll implant a microchip in your brain and fry your body"

Those who tangle up the New World Order with the Apocalypse and the Book of Revelation all know the prophecy that the Great Beast will abolish all money. What with microchips and all, the Beast will now (so they say) implant a combined credit card mind reader/control chip in your head. One chain letter which has been posted and reposted a million times on the internet tells it like this:

"The plans of the New World Order include recalling our money and replacing it with

to hide yourself away from the world isn't actually such a good idea after all:

"Just program the needed info to affect their brain while they sleep! This is people's most receptive and vulnerable state anyway.

"An antenna is essentially a mini-transmitter as well. If it is made to oscillate by a suitable

human body is lying down in a metal-spring mattress, it's within inches of the metallic spring grid... These springs are natural antennas to incoming electromagnetic waves.

"While we are in deep REM sleep we are enfolded in the field of the metallic spring matrix of the mattress, and are easy prey to Electromagnetic Wave